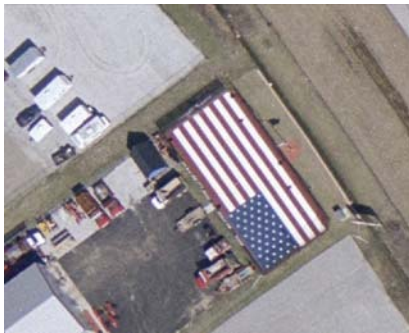


# The Huck Finn Project

## Celebrating Youth, Geography and the Arts

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American flag painted on tennis court surface.

*"Indiana PINK? Why, what a lie!"*

*"It ain't no lie; I've seen it on the map, and it's pink."*

*You never see a person so aggravated and disgusted. He says: "Well, if I was such a numbskull as you, Huck Finn, I would jump over. Seen it on the map! Huck Finn, did you reckon the States was the same color out-of-doors as they are on the map?"*

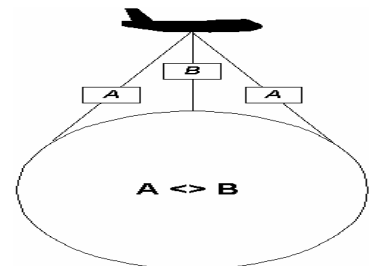
*"Tom Sawyer, what's a map for? Ain't it to learn you facts?"*

***Do maps really reflect what we see on the ground?  
Can I make my own mark on the world?  
How are maps made in the 21<sup>st</sup> century?***

Learn the answers to these questions and more through fun and exciting activities of the Huck Finn Project!

In March and April of 2005, the entire State of Indiana will be flown for high quality color orthophotography - aerial photography that is rectified to have the geometric properties of a map. The Huck Finn Project celebrates youth through fun and creative learning experiences that kids can really "own". Through a series of lesson plans and activities, Indiana schools are invited to learn about art, geography, literature, math, science and government, history and their community while developing creative artworks to be captured in the "IndianaMap".

- Art - schools participate in art design competitions to develop artwork to be transferred onto outdoor surfaces to be captured in the Spring 2005 orthophotography. Through the "Paint Your Playground" students learn about color, composition, and scale. When the new orthophotography is available in the late fall of 2005 / early winter of 2006, art work will be displayed on the web in a specially designed mapping application. Selected art works will be formally exhibited at a number of forums through the state and nationally.
- Geography - learn the basics of aerial imagery and map making and how maps are made and used in the 21<sup>st</sup> century. Grade-appropriate lesson plans focus on location, measurement, cartography, electronic map navigation, weather, and more!
- Literature - advanced grades can learn more about one of America's most noted author, Mark Twain, by retracing the steps of Tom Sawyer and Huck Finn down the Mississippi River.
- Math - use math skills as you learn the geometry of correcting the flat surfaces of photography to the round, hilly surfaces of the earth.



- Science and Government - advanced lessons introduce students to geographic information systems - a technology that is emerging as an essential toolset for scientific discovery and the business of government - *Why is the State orthophotography being flown? What is the IndianaMap?*
- History - learn about the evolution of “remote sensing” and aerial photography from the use of hot air balloons through satellite imagery.
- Community - each school’s artwork can reflect a theme about their community.

The Huck Finn Project invites schools to participate in a variety of activities and lesson plans that meet national education standards for their discipline. All Indiana schools are encouraged to join the Huck Finn Project - a fun adventure in exploring our world through art and geography. Schools can participate in several hands-on activities designed for grades K - 12 ([www.huckfinn.in.gov](http://www.huckfinn.in.gov) will go live at the beginning of November - in time for Geography Awareness Week and GIS Day November 17th!).

Yes it’s fun. What’s more, the Huck Finn Project serves to support educational standards and subtly introduce students to the emerging field of geographic information system technologies - a field with a high projected job market growth!

“The geospatial industry is fast-growing and exciting and it offers a great deal of job opportunities. The workforce in this industry has doubled in the last four years and accelerated growth is expected in the years ahead,” said Secretary of Labor Elaine L. Chao, September 2004

The Huck Finn Projects involves whole communities! We seek individual and corporate project partners, sponsors and donors to lend support to celebrating Indiana youth, geography and the arts. Here are some examples of how you can help:

- Schools always need volunteer support! Dad’s Clubs, PTO, Boy Scouts, and local hardware stores can help schools prepare and clean outdoor surfaces for painting, help with painting, donate supplies, clean-up, etc.

#### **Partners:**

Indiana Geographic Information Council, Inc.  
 Geography Educators’ Network of Indiana, Inc.  
 IndianaView at Purdue University  
 Indiana Geological Survey at Indiana University  
 Access Indiana Information Network

Indiana Geographic Information Council, Inc. [www.in.gov/ingisi](http://www.in.gov/ingisi)  
 For More Information, Contact Us [http://www.in.gov/ingisi/contact\\_us/index.html](http://www.in.gov/ingisi/contact_us/index.html)